

KHGG-AM First Quarter 2015 Issues Report

Phillip Merry, organizer of the Chamber of Commerce Christmas Honors program visited with Bill Pharis during "Arklahoma Today" regarding the need to pick up the wreaths at the Fort Smith National Cemetery, January third. Volunteers are needed to collect the more than 15,000 wreaths, take off the bows, and re-pack into boxes for transport to storage. Merry also discussed the need for contributions to replace wreaths that had become weather worn. The current supply of wreaths have lasted close to five years, and may need to be entirely replaced and the old wreaths discarded. Interview aired Friday, January 2, 2015 AT 7:40AM.

Obamacare sign-up deadline: National Insurance underwriter Dolores Chitwood spoke with Karen Pharis regarding assistors to help individuals sign up for national health care. She discussed the various levels of expertise agents and assistors possess and how to contact them if help is needed to navigate the national website. Persons can attempt to sign-up on their own, but Ms. Chitwood said that the site can still be frustrating if an individual is impatient. Interview aired Tuesday, January 6th AT 8:10AM.

On Wednesday, January 7th 8:20AM, Lee Ann Carnes with Sparks Medical Center Van Buren discussed a new 2015 program dealing with balance for seniors. Premiere Physical Therapy in Van Buren is offering a series of evening classes featuring exercises to help those 50+ gain better muscle strength and stronger balance. The classes are free and open to the public and snacks will be provided.

The United Way of Greater Fort Smith is taking part in a new prescription program and spoke with Karen Pharis. Individuals can stop by the United Way office or go to their website and download the card, which is free of charge and offers discounts on prescriptions to those who do not have such coverage. Mitzy Little discussed the program on January 13th at 8:10am.

Susan Alt with the U.S. Marshal Museum in Fort Smith spoke with Karen and Bill Pharis on February 5th at 8:10am regarding the sale of the gold, silver and copper coins to benefit the U.S. Marshal Museum. The coin sale is a fundraiser for the construction costs. Nearly one and a half million dollars have been raised since the coins went on sale after the first of the year. Twenty three million dollars needs to be raised for completion of the museum on the banks of the Arkansas River.

A benefit concert to raise funds and food for the Fort Smith area Salvation Army is scheduled for Saturday, February 28th. Karen Pharis spoke with organizer Bruce Park on February 13th at 8:15am and re-ran the interview on February 27th at 8:10am. Proceeds from the gospel concert will be donated to the Salvation Army. The Fort Smith Radio Group also aired :30 psa's on all stations to promote the concert.

On Tuesday, February 17th Don Paul Bales was interviewed by Bill Pharis at 8:10am regarding "Take Back the Fort" ...an effort to gain 2,700 signatures to place an initiative on the May 2015 election ballot in Fort Smith which would change the form of city government from the city administrator form, back to the Mayor-council form of local government. Bales said his group felt that a Mayor with more power could be more efficient and be more answerable to the city board than a city administrator. The group had to turn in the petition signatures to the city clerk by March 2nd.

Stephanie Stippens talked with Karen Pharis about the February 20, 21 and 22 Homebuilders of Greater Fort Smith Home Show scheduled at the Fort Smith convention center. She talked about the increase in vendors for this year's event, and the fact that home buying and building was seeing an uptick since the start of the year. The 8:10am interview covered the guest speakers scheduled to appear at the three-day event, as well as hands-on clinics for do-it-yourselfers for home improvement and decorating.

Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson is creating a new state government website. On Wednesday, March 4th at 7:40am, press secretary J. R. Davis spoke with Karen Pharis about the need for Arkansans to submit photos of Arkansas events, cities, and well-known landscapes. The photos can be emailed to a special site for judging by the 25th of March. A quick turnaround will see the winning submissions appear on the newly designed website by Saturday, March 28th! The interview aired again on Tuesday the 17th at 8:10am

At 7:40am on Tueay, March 10th, Karen Pharis spoke with Fort Smith public school assistant superintendent Darian Laves about Kindergarten Registration approaching April first. He outlined the materials needed, social security card, and shot records, and discussed the various shots required by law before a child can enter school. He said parents can go to the city of Fort Smith's website to the "where do I go to school" column and enter the home address to find out the elementary school their child will attend. He said it is important children sign up for and attend kindergarten to prepare them for twelve years of successful education.

The 30th annual Spiro Mounds Kite Flite is scheduled for Saturday, March 21st during the Spring Equinox. Boy Scouts will be on site from 10am until 3pm to help attendees make their own kites. In addition, professional "kitters" will be attending, making a show of their huge flyers. The normal \$5. Admission fee for park attendance will be waived on this day, although contributions will be accepted and appreciated! A number of food and drink vendors will be on site benefiting local non-profit groups. There will be a children's area where kids can go on their own "archeological dig" and find rocks, coins, toys, and a special token which can be redeemed for a kite!

David Mesky spoke with Karen Pharis on March 19th at 8:10am regarding the upcoming Lawn and Garden show March 27, 28, 29 at the Fort Smith convention center. This year's event revolves around "pollinators"....particularly bees! A series of seminars will be held on Saturday explaining the importance of bees and

how city residents can help create a healthy bee population. In addition, local gardens will have greenery on display with planting ideas.

Van Buren health teacher Brandy Mosby and Donald W. Reynolds Crisis Intervention Center education specialist Terrah Baker spoke with Karen Pharis at 7:40am on Wednesday, March 25th regarding the "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes". The event is to create awareness of domestic and sexual abuse. The "walk" will be held at the Van Buren Freshman Academy on April 21st and is closed to the public since it is during school hours. Male students will 'walk' in high heels around the track. Along the way will be mannequins and cardboard cutouts representing actual victims of abuse; some survived, some did not. The two discussed educating students as young as 12 about safe relationships and dating.

Valerie Fitch with the River Valley Christian Life Corps talked with Karen Pharis on Friday, March 27th about the upcoming "Arkansas Gives" Day, April second. Their non-profit group mentors and trains those who have fallen on hard times. They hope that the community will donate to the Christian Life Corps since donations receive matching donations from the Arkansas Community Foundation. She also discussed the April 11 job skills fair scheduled to be held at the Fort Smith Adult Education Center. Those attending will get tips on job interviews, how to dress for interviews and work, and will receive help preparing a resume' and even leave the event with their resume' on a flash drive.